

Windmill Hill Academy

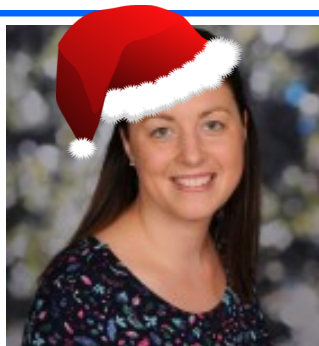
Monthly Family Newsletter

Inspiring Passionate Life Long Learners



Mrs A Bassett
Head of School

Friday 20th December 2019



It has been a long but very enjoyable half term with many events taking place. Two of my favourite moments have been Key Stage Two's production of 'Hansel and Gretel' and Year F/Key Stage One's Nativity, 'Born in a Barn'. I think you'll agree that they were fantastic and the children made us all very proud!

In the new year, we welcome Mrs Paterson to Year 5 as a Teaching Assistant. On the other hand, we have had to say goodbye to Mrs Dawe (Kitchen Assistant) today. She has worked at WHA for over ten years and she will be missed. She knows the names of ALL of the children and she always serves dinner with a smile! We wish her the best of luck in her new adventures.

I would like to take this opportunity to praise the children for all of their hard work this term. I have seen such huge progress and successes from them—they really are a credit to us all! I would also like to thank all of the staff who all work extremely hard and make a super team. In addition, thank you to all of our governors, friends and volunteers who take the time to support our school on a daily basis. Lastly, thank you to all of you for your continued support and your support has been gratefully received in my new role as Head of School. I really have enjoyed it and I look forward to many more years at Windmill Hill Academy. It is a school I am extremely proud of!

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please have a lovely break and please find the time to rest, spend time with your families and have plenty of fun! We look forward to welcoming the pupils back to school on **Tuesday 7th January**.

School Improvement: CEO visit

Last week, Mr Hermon, the CEO for the An Daras Trust visited us for a brief visit. I updated him on what we have been working on so far this year including the wider curriculum, learning environments, Rights Respecting and much more.

He was really pleased to see the progress we have all made so far this year. He recognised the hard work everybody is and has undertaken, including pupils, parents, governors and staff.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

23rd Dec—3rd Jan	Christmas Holidays
6th Jan	INSET day
7th Jan	New term begins
13th Jan	Year 2 and 4 start swimming sessions
Wk beg 17th Feb	Half term

As a request of our Pupil Parliament Eco Group, we are trying to be an 'Eco friendly' school. Therefore, we won't be sending home newsletters. Black and white copies are available in the foyer. It will also be available on the website under 'Newsletters' in the 'Parents' tab and will be posted on ClassDojo.

Website: www.windmillhillacademy.org

E-mail: windmill@andaras.org

Tel: 01566 772143



Attendance Figures for November/December 2019

The class with the highest attendance each week receives an extra playtime and the attendance

	YF	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Whole School	trophy. Individual awards have been rewarded at the end of this term for pupils with 100%. Our annual attendance target is 97.3%.
29th Nov	85.6%	91.7%	91.1%	95.6%	95.9%	98.6%	99.3%	94%	
6th Dec	95.2%	94.7%	95.4%	96.3%	96.9%	98.2%	95%	95.9%	
13th Dec	92.2%	96.3%	90.4%	92.6%	95.3%	96.1%	97.9%	94.4%	

Stars of The Week

	Year F	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
29th Nov	Hannah Taya	Freya James	Jack C Curtis	Leah Casey	Lily Caitlyn	Aris Dillan	Emily Milo
6th Dec	Kai Ella	Imogen Millie	Seth Florence	Lacey Owen	Esther Sara	Flora Ewan	George Gracie
13th Dec	Maxim Alex	Lilian George	Freya Sienna	Darcey Nicola	Lohen Karol	Aris Emma	Harry Chloe
20th Dec	All of Year F	Chloe Patrycja	All of Year 2	Iannis Poppy	Callie Aimee	Oscar K Aime	Noel Madison

This term's winning house team is **Red team** (Northgate) with an AMAZING **3321** house team points.

All of the children enjoyed a cinema experience (voted by them) in school as their reward this week.

Respect and Kindness

	KS1	LKS2	UKS2
29th Nov	Lilian	Jacob	Warren
6th Dec	Quintin	Lola	Noah
13th Dec	Ella	Morwenna	Warren

Positive Role Model

29th Nov
Eliza (Y4)
13th Dec
Hope (YF)

Visible Learners of the half term						
Year F	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Hope	Max T	Lexie G	Lacey	Eliza	Dillan	Warren
Aaron	Laila	Abe	Finlay	Blake	Isla	Angel

Writers and Mathematicians of the half term							
	Year F	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Writing	Noah	Bella	Jude	Summer	Autumn	Flora	Liam G
Maths	Aaron	Freddie C	Quintin	Kayla	Niamh	Emma	Gemma

And the WINNER is

Miss Young (Year 6 Teacher and English Lead) set a reading challenge. The challenge was to read in a weird or wacky place.

Thank you for all of your entries. There were quite a few of them and we all enjoyed looking at all of your photos shared. It was a tough decision due to them being very worthy.

The winner is **Florence** in Year 2. We can see that Florence loves sharing her books with her dog called Dottie. Florence has been awarded with a book as a prize. Well done Florence!



Look out for the next challenge set after Christmas.

Year 1 visit to Charlie Bears

Year 1 would like to thank the staff at Charlie Bears for enabling all the children in Year 1 to have such a magical time visiting them and all their wonderful bears last week. We really enjoyed exploring their amazing museum and we had great had fun finding all the special bears in their Christmas quiz. We even discovered that some bears had the same names as our own!



Thank you also to St Josephs who kindly provided us with transport to Charlie Bears in their minibuses.

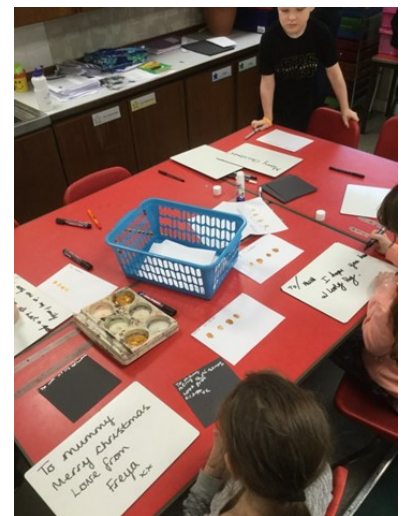
Year 2 Visit to Pendruccombe Nursing Home

On Tuesday 3rd December, Year 2 visited Pendruccombe Nursing Home to spend some time with the residents there. We performed some of our nativity songs and then the residents sang a song for us! The visit was thoroughly enjoyed by both the children and the residents, and lots of comments were made about how well-mannered the children are which was lovely to hear.



Decorations Day

On decorations day, Year 2 enjoyed making lots of different festive crafts, including beaded candy canes, angels, Christmas cards and gift bags and pompom creatures. Thank you to all of the parents, carers or grandparents who attended and enjoyed this special day.



KS2's Production of Hansel and Gretel

Each year KS2 hold a performance at Launceston Town Hall or St Mary's Magdalene and each year the staff scratch their heads in wonder whether the production will come together. This year was no exception, but once again we are very proud to say that they pulled it out of the bag with stunning performances and singing.

The evil stepmother was definitely proved to be high maintenance with the expectation of fancy furs and perfume while the wicked old lady really got her comeuppance in the cooking pot for wanting to eat Hansel. Hansel and Gretel were both very convincing (I for one wouldn't want to cross Gretel) and it was good to see that Dad did eventually grow a backbone.

It takes a lot to stand on stage and many of the cast spent their lunchtimes learning their lines; a massive well done to you all!

The Year 3 and 4 dances were a delight; they had worked hard to put the choreography together to make the dances their own and then performed them with great enthusiasm.

The choir also need a special mention; they sang every song over and over again. Their rendition of 'Better Than One...Is Two' brought a tear to many an eye.

And of course, not forgetting the props people who beavered away making the spectacular props and then worked backstage making sure they appeared or disappeared at just the right time.

The Key Stage Two Team would like to thank all those who came in support of such a great event. Special thanks also go to the Friends who contributed to the cost of costumes and props. Without your continued support such events would not be possible.



Shining bright at the St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival



On December 29th, a group of us went down to Saint Mary's Church to decorate our Christmas Tree. This year the theme was based on our Christmas performances, which were: Hansel and Gretel for Key Stage 2 and Born in a Barn for Key Stage 1. As usual, each child in school made a decoration to go on to the tree and it looked lovely when we had finished. Then we had a look around the church at all of the other trees. Our tree was on display in the church for a week and then it was taken to the library to stay on display for a little longer. Thank you to everyone who made a decoration and to those who came to the church with Mrs Williams and myself to decorate it. You were all impeccably behaved and helpful. Thank you.



We do hope that you managed to get to the church to see the wonderful trees that were displayed there.

Mrs Millard (Higher Level Teaching Assistant)





Friends of Windmill Hill Academy

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Friends of Windmill Hill Academy for their hard work this term. They have organised many events, including the Monster Ball, Christmas Cards and the recent Christmas Fair.

The Christmas Fair was a real success and we raised an AMAZING **£512!** Events like this take a lot of organisation and preparation. Many attended and we hoped you all enjoyed yourselves.

Thank you to everyone for supporting all of these events. All monies raised goes to supporting and enriching the children's education.

Look out for more events in the Spring and Summer terms.

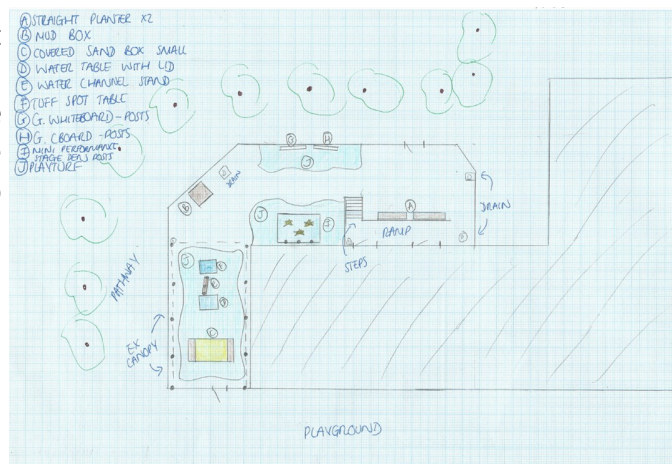
If you are interested in joining our Friends of WHA or just supporting with events, please do come and ask.

We have been granted National Lottery funding!

A few months ago, we applied for funding from the National Lottery to develop our EYFS Outdoor Area to enhance the new EYFS Classroom. And, I am very pleased to say that we have been granted the funding!

Work is due to be completed in the Spring term. It will include a stage, a gardening area, a construction area, large writing board and much more - all of the areas have been planned carefully to promote the different areas of the EYFS curriculum. It will also look very natural to fit in with our beautiful surroundings, e.g. wooden structures and grass turfing.

We look forward to sharing this new area with you.



Do you have a child or know someone who has a child who was born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016?

If so, you/they must now apply for a school place for him/her for September 2020 via the online application: www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions. If you do not have internet access, please call in at the school office for further information. A formal application through Cornwall Council must be made by parents for all places for children due to start school in September 2020. The deadline for applications is **15th January 2020**.



Books for Schools

Please help us to get free books by collecting the tokens from The Sun newspaper and donating to our school between Saturday 23rd November and 18th January 2020. Mrs Zoffman will keep a collection in the office.

SchoolMoney APP

Thank you for supporting us in using the SchoolMoney APP to order and pay for school dinners. I think we have now rectified all of the teething problems.

After Christmas we ask you to make sure ALL lunches (packed lunches/school dinners - free or paid) are booked on the SchoolMoney APP by each Sunday evening. Also, please liaise with your child of what they will be having so there is no confusion.

If you are having a problems with it, please come and speak to Mrs Zoffman in the office.

Please visit our updated website: www.windmillhillacademy.org

Please follow us on Twitter: @ADMAT_WHA



School Uniform

We strongly encourage all pupils to wear school uniform. It helps them to have a sense of belonging. Our school has a very practical but smart uniform. It follows a colour scheme of royal blue and black or grey and consists of:

- A white shirt, blouse or polo shirt
- A royal blue sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan (jumpers can be purchased from the school office)
- Black or grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore dress
- Blue and white gingham dress (Summer months)
- Black shoes which meet the Health and Safety requirements of the school.



It is essential that children have a change of clothing for PE. We suggest that this is left in a bag on the child's peg during the school week and taken home at weekends/half term for washing. This should be:

- Black or grey shorts
- White t-shirt
- White socks
- Black or grey joggers or leggings
- Additional school jumper or a fleece (recommended for the colder months)
- Plimsolls or flexible soled trainers (strongly recommended for wet weather)

It is essential that all items of clothing are CLEARLY named.

The wearing of jewellery is not appropriate. Children who have their ears pierced may wear small studs or rings. Wearing of makeup is not appropriate.



Free Christmas Day Lunch

- Are you or someone you know going to be alone this Christmas?
- Are you struggling physically or financially and are unable to cook for Christmas?

Why not come and join us for fun and games in the warm, followed by a 3 Course meal with the community of Launceston (Transport Available if needed)

Central Methodist Church Hall
25th December | 12.30pm for 1pm

CONTACT:
 Laura at | 07817549675 | launcestonchristmas@gmail.com
 (Or Pop into a local Church for an Application form)




Free!

Launceston Chamber of Commerce

BBC one

McQueen's Dance
 Raffle & Theatre
 Late Night Shopping
 Pop Choir
 Mischievous Elves
 Market in the Square
 Mulled wine
 Illuminated Fairies
 Town Band
 Food Music

Friday 20 Dec | 4pm - 8pm
Launceston Town Centre

Santa's Grotto

free picture for social media